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Frederick County Health Department

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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BREAST CANCER SCREENING PROGRAM RECEIVES DONATION FROM TEAM H.O.P.E.

FREDERICK, MD -- The Frederick County Health Department Breast Cancer Screening program received a \$20,000.00 donation from Team H.O.P.E.

Team H.O.P.E. is a local organization that formed in January 2008. Between 2008-2011, Team H.O.P.E. donated more than \$140,000.00 to cancer research on a national level. In December, 2011, Team H.O.P.E. became a 501(c)3 non-profit organization so they could turn their focus to Frederick County and the needs in our local community. Since becoming a non-profit, Team H.O.P.E. has partnered with Dr. Julian Choe, Michelle Cooper, CRNP, Community Radiology Associates and the Frederick County Health Department, donating more than \$164,000.00 and providing care for more than 900 women. The funds donated to these partners covers the cost of clinical breast exams and any needed breast imaging for women who are either underinsured or have no insurance at all and fall outside of the parameters for care being offered through the Breast Cancer Screening program due to age or income level.

The Breast Cancer Screening program serves low-income women who are uninsured or underinsured and are Frederick County residents. Health Department Public Health nurses navigate clients through the process of receiving a clinical breast exam and mammogram by contracted physicians in the community.

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This year the Maryland Department of Health Breast Cancer Screening program received a \$1 million funding reduction from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. This reduction has affected local Breast Cancer Screening programs across the state including the Frederick program.

There are currently 147 women due for breast cancer screenings this year who are not covered due to this funding cut. The Team H.O.P.E. donation will cover 63 screenings, reducing the shortfall by 47%. Beth Mowrey, Program Manager of the Breast Cancer Screening program states, "We are very thankful that over 60 women who otherwise would not have been served will now receive their breast cancer screening due to this generous donation. This is really important because we know that early detection saves lives."

More information about the Breast Cancer Screening program can be found by visiting <http://health.frederickcountymd.gov/BCC> or by calling 301-600-3362.

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